

Appln No. 10/787,271
Talaucher et al.
Office Action dated March 10, 2005

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) Support for holding an item of equipment, in particular an item of equipment for a motor vehicle, comprising a casing of molded plastic (2) having a peripheral wall (4) on which support ribs (16, 18) are provided for holding the item of equipment, the peripheral wall (4) defining a housing of given axis (X-X) for receiving the item of equipment, wherein the ribs (16, 18) are inclined with respect to the axis (X-X) of the reception housing.
2. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 1, wherein the ribs (16, 18) are formed on the inside of the casing.
3. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 1, wherein the ribs (16, 18) each have a salient edge (68) that is able to make contact with the item of equipment.
4. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 1, wherein the ribs (16, 18) are grouped in pairs having opposite inclinations.
5. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 2, wherein the ribs (16, 18) are grouped in pairs having opposite inclinations.
6. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 2, wherein the number of ribs (16, 18) is between 4 and 12.

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7. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 1, wherein the ribs (16, 18) have the shape of a helix (32).

8. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 3, wherein the ribs (16, 18) have the shape of a helix (32).

9. (cancelled)

10. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 8, wherein the shape of the rib (16, 18) corresponds to the shape of a salient edge (68) that the rib has.

11. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 8, wherein the angle of inclination of the helix (32) is between 1° and 15°.

12. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 1, wherein the ribs (16, 18) have a cross section selected from the group comprising triangular, square, rectangular, semi-circular or elliptical shapes, or a combination of these shapes.

13. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 2, wherein the ribs (16, 18) have a cross section selected from the group comprising triangular, square, rectangular, semi-circular or elliptical shapes, or a combination of these shapes.

14. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 4, wherein the ribs (16, 18) have a cross section selected from the group comprising triangular, square, rectangular, semi-circular or elliptical shapes, or a combination of these shapes.

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15. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 6, wherein the ribs (16, 18) have a cross section selected from the group comprising triangular, square, rectangular, semi-circular or elliptical shapes, or a combination of these shapes.

16. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 7, wherein the ribs (16, 18) have a cross section selected from the group comprising triangular, square, rectangular, semi-circular or elliptical shapes, or a combination of these shapes.

17. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 1, wherein the cross section of the ribs is constant, increasing or decreasing, or has a combination of these forms.

18. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 2, wherein the cross section of the ribs is constant, increasing or decreasing, or has a combination of these forms.

19. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 4, wherein the cross section of the ribs is constant, increasing or decreasing, or has a combination of these forms.

20. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 6, wherein the cross section of the ribs is constant, increasing or decreasing, or has a combination of these forms.

21. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 7, wherein the cross section of the ribs is constant, increasing or decreasing, or has a combination of these forms.

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22. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 2, wherein the ribs (16, 18) are continuous.

23. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 4, wherein the ribs (16, 18) are continuous.

24. (previously presented) Support part according to claim 7, wherein the ribs (16, 18) are continuous.

25. (withdrawn) Support part according to claim 1, wherein the ribs are formed by a series of bosses (64, 66) arranged along a line (32) that is inclined with respect to the axis (X-X) of the housing.

26. (withdrawn) along a line (32) that is inclined with respect to the axis (X-X) of the housing.

27. (withdrawn) Support part according to claim 25, wherein the bosses (64, 66) are arranged along a helical line (32).

28. (withdrawn) Support part according to claim 25, wherein the bosses (64, 66) are arranged along a straight line segment (35) connecting two points (34, 35) situated on a helix (32).

29. (withdrawn) Support part according to claim 27, wherein the bosses (64, 66) have points of contact defining salient edges (68) of the ribs.

30. (withdrawn) Method of molding a support part (2) comprising support ribs (16, 18) for holding an item of equipment, the step comprising:

- providing a mold consisting of at least two cores (38, 40);

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- bringing the two cores (38, 40) toward one another in a given direction (D) such that, once positioned, the latter are in contact with one another along a parting plane;
- filling the mold with a moldable material;
- moving the cores (36, 38) apart from one another in the given direction (D),

wherein the support ribs (16, 18) are provided on the molded part with an inclination (α) with respect to the given direction (D); the cores (16, 18) are shaped such that their parting plane follows the ribs (16, 18), and a clearance (62) is provided in at least one of the cores (38, 40) in the region of their parting plane in order to form the ribs, during molding, by the filling of this clearance (62) with the molded material.

31. (withdrawn) Method according to claim 30, wherein the cores (38, 40) are shaped such that their parting plane forms salient edges (68) of the ribs (16, 18).

32. (withdrawn) Mold for implementing the method according to claim 30, comprising an upper core (38) having a cylindrical central portion (42) and peripheral protrusions (46), and a lower core (40) having a cylindrical central portion (44) and peripheral protrusions (48).

33. (withdrawn) Mold for implementing the method according to claim 31, comprising an upper core (38) having a cylindrical central portion (42) and peripheral protrusions (46), and a lower core (40) having a cylindrical central portion (44) and peripheral protrusions (48).

34. (withdrawn) Mold according to claim 32, wherein each peripheral protrusion (46) of the upper core (38) has an outer cylindrical face (50), an inner cylindrical face (54) and radial faces (58) connecting the outer

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cylindrical face (50) and the outer cylindrical face (54), and in that each peripheral protrusion (48) of the lower core (40) has an outer cylindrical face (52), an inner cylindrical face (56) and radial faces (60) connecting the outer cylindrical face (52) and the inner cylindrical face (56).

35. (withdrawn) Mold according to claim 32, wherein the radial faces (58, 60) are planar or helical.

36. (withdrawn) Mold according to claim 33, wherein the radial faces (58, 60) are planar or helical.

37. (withdrawn) Mold according to claim 34, wherein the radial faces (58, 60) are planar or helical.

38. (withdrawn) Mold according to claim 32, wherein it comprises a clearance (62) in at least one of the cores (38, 40) in the region of their parting plane in order to form the ribs (16, 18) during molding.

39. (withdrawn) Mold according to claim 34, wherein a clearance (62) is formed by a connecting face connecting an outer cylindrical face (50) and a radial face (58) of the upper core (38) and/or by a connecting face connecting an outer cylindrical face (52) and a radial face (60) of the lower core (40).

40. (withdrawn) Mold according to claim 34, wherein a clearance (62) is formed by a connecting face connecting an outer cylindrical face (50) and a radial face (58) of the upper core (38) and/or by a connecting face connecting an outer cylindrical face (52) and a radial face (60) of the lower core (40).

41. (cancelled)

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42. (new) Support part according to claim 2, wherein the ribs are formed by a series of bosses (64, 66) arranged along a line (32) that is inclined with respect to the axis (X-X) of the housing.